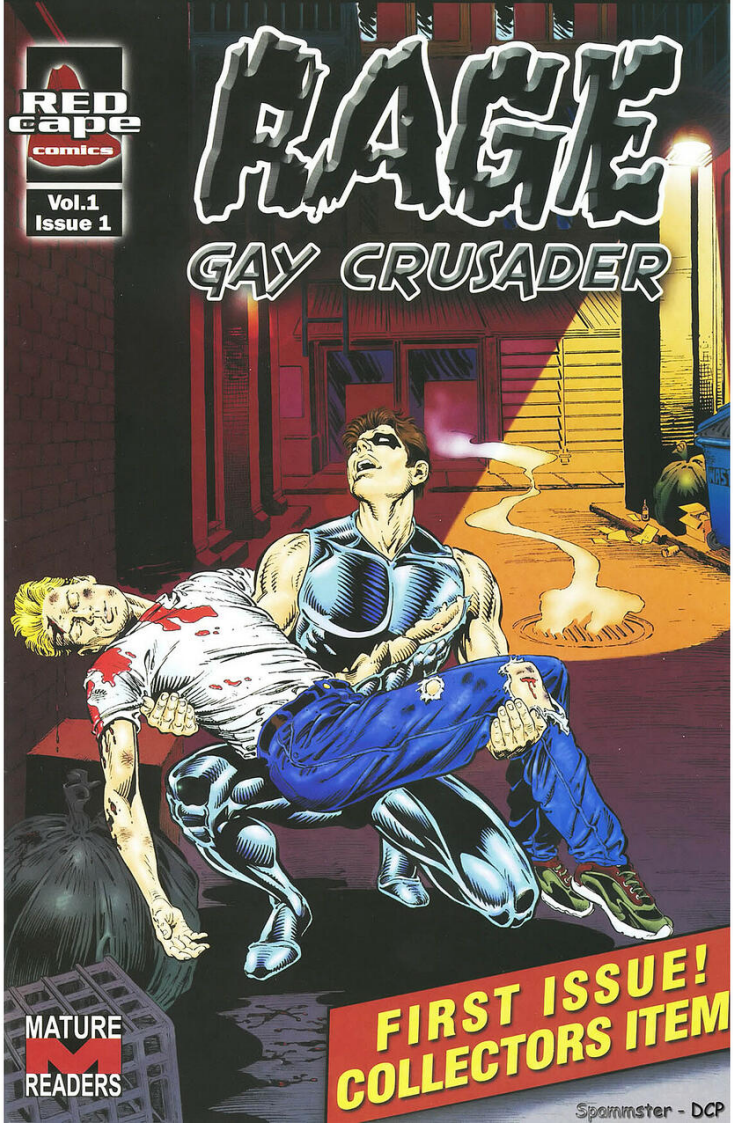

RED cape comics
Vol.1 Issue 1
RAGE
GAY CRUSADER
MATURE READERS
FIRST ISSUE! COLLECTORS ITEM
Spammster - DCP

RUMOUR HAS IT THAT THE MAGNIFICENT CAPTAIN ASTRO SERIES OF COMICS WAS BROUGHT TO AN UNTIMELY END BY THE PRESSURE OF NEGATIVE ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE CAPTAIN'S AMBIGUOUS SEXUALITY. AMBIGUOUS MY ASS. CAPTAIN ASTRO WAS THE PROUDEST, GAYEST, MOST FABULOUS SUPERHERO TO EVER GRACE THE COMIC BOOK SHELVES WITH HIS PRESENCE. HAD HE NOT BEEN CENSORED AND CONSTRAINED BY HIS COWARDLY DISTRIBUTORS, I'M CERTAIN THE CAPTAIN WOULD HAVE PROUDLY DECLARED HIS GAY IDENTITY TO THE WORLD. SADLY, HE'LL NEVER HAVE THAT CHANCE. THE CAPTAIN'S PASSING LEAVES A VOID IN THE COMIC UNIVERSE. SOMEONE MUST TAKE HIS PLACE AS THE WORLD'S PREEMINENT GAY SUPERHERO.

MEET RAGE.

RAGE IS EXPLODING OUT OF THE CLOSET AND INTO THE WORLD TO FIGHT INTOLERANCE AND DEFEND THE FABULOUS CITIZENS OF GAYOPOLIS.

WE ARE VERY PROUD TO PRESENT RAGE: ISSUE #1. MAY YOU ENJOY READING THESE PAGES AS MUCH AS WE'VE ENJOYED CREATING THEM. OUR HOPE IS THAT RAGE CAN IN SOME WAY PAY TRIBUTE TO THE LEGACY OF OUR FALLEN HERO, CAPTAIN ASTRO.

Michael Novotny Justin Taylor

RAGE
GAY CRUSADER

STORY BY: MICHAEL NOVOTNY
ART BY: JUSTIN TAYLOR

RAGE GAY CRUSADER: ISSUE #1, MARCH 2002 PUBLISHED BY RED CAPE COMICS, 568 WESTERLY AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA, 15233. TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS FOR RAGE GAY CRUSADER: ISSUE #1 ARE © 2002 RED CAPE COMICS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PORTION OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF RED CAPE COMICS. NAMES, CHARACTERS, PLACES AND INCIDENTS FEATURED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE EITHER THE PRODUCTS OF THE AUTHORS IMAGINATION OR ARE USED FICTITIOUSLY. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS LIVING OR DEAD, EVENTS, INSTITUTIONS, OR LOCALES, WITHOUT SATIRIC INTENT, IS COINCIDENTAL. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITES: www.redcapecomics.com & www.rageishere.com © 2002 SHOWTIME NETWORKS INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

WELCOME TO GAYOPOLIS: AN INTIMIDATING CITY FILLED WITH LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITY...
...AND DANGER.
...SEVERE DANGER FOR AN UNFORTUNATE NINETEEN YEAR OLD COLLEGE STUDENT. BUT THAT'S LATER... OUR STORY BEGINS FRIDAY AFTERNOON: AN ENTIRE WORK WEEK'S TENSION LEVEL HAS SWELLED TO ITS LIMIT, AND THIS CITY NEEDS RELEASE. ONE MAN SEEMS TO FEED OFF THE ENERGY. HE'S CONFIDENT. HE'S HUNGRY FOR EXCITEMENT. HE'S A COMMANDING PRESENCE AS HE STROLLS HOME FROM THE OFFICE...

...COULD HE BE EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE ONCE HE'S OUT OF HIS WORK CLOTHES?
GOD! WHAT A HUNK!
(SIGH) I KNOW.
GOD! WHAT A HUNK!

RAGE IS THINKING CLUBWEAR. HOWEVER, BACK AT THEIR SECRET LAIR, HIS PARTNER ZEPHYR IS IN FULL SUPERHERO MODE.
HONEY, I'M HOME! WHAT'S FOR DINNER?
DON'T KID AROUND RAGE, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. I'VE GOT A REALLY BAD FEELING ABOUT TONIGHT.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE OVER-DRESSED. GET CHANGED FOR BABYLON.
HOW CAN WE GO CLUBBING WHEN THE GOOD PEOPLE OF GAYOPOLIS MIGHT NEED US?
VERY EASILY... NOW, YOU CAN EITHER TAKE OFF THE HERO GEAR NICELY...
...OR I CAN TEAR IT FROM YOUR BODY.
MAYBE WE COULD USE A BREAK...
PERFECT. I'LL JUST TAKE A QUICK SHOWER.

THE ANSWER IS YES! FOR THIS IS NO ORDINARY EXTRA-ORDINARILY GOOD LOOKING MAN. THIS IS RAGE: PROUD DEFENDER OF THE CITIZENS OF GAYOPOLIS.
AND IF YOU THINK RAGE WOULD LET A PURSE-SNATCHER RUIN THE START OF A PERFECTLY GOOD WEEKEND...
NOT TODAY, FUCKER.
WHAT THE..?
UH, WHAT WAS I JUST DOING...?
!?!
AH, JUST ENOUGH TIME TO CHANGE OUTFITS.
...YOU'D BE WRONG.

BABYLON: WHERE THE MOST FABULOUS CITIZENS OF GAYOPOLIS LOSE THEMSELVES IN THE NEVERENDING THUMP-THUMP. IT GIVES OUR HEROIC DUO A REMINDER OF WHAT THEY'RE FIGHTING FOR, A REASON TO CONTINUE THEIR SECRET BATTLE...
... A REFUGE WHERE THEY STRENGTHEN THEIR HIDDEN BOND.
BUT A TRUE HERO NEVER RESTS LONG...
WHAT IS IT?
SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS HAPPENING! I CAN SEE IT...
I KNEW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. A YOUNG MAN IS IN TROUBLE. HE NEEDS US!
HOW YOUNG?
WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!
... A NIGHT OFF QUICKLY BECOMES A CALL TO DUTY.

RAGE AND ZEPHYR SCAN THE SHADOWY STREETS OF GAYOPOLIS
MOMENTS LATER...
TAKE THAT, YOU DIRTY FAGGOT!
SOMEBODY... HELP ME...

THAT'LL TEACH YOU, LITTLE PUSSYBOY!
HA HA HA HA HA!!
UUUUSH..
AS THEY LEAVE HIM TO DIE ALONE IN THE COLD, DARK ALLEY...
HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE.
LOOKS BAD.
DON'T GIVE UP... HANG IN THERE.
STUPID COCKSUCKER DOESN'T KNOW DICKS ARE FOR CHICKS.
HA HA HA HA HA!!
RAGE, WE CAN'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

...CAUSING EACH BASHER TO THINK THE OTHERS ARE GAY!
AAAAAH!!
UUGGH!!
YOU TRYING TO GRAB MY ASS, FAGGOT!!
I'LL KILL YOU YOU FUCKIN' QUEER!
AS THE BASHERS TREAT THEMSELVES TO THE DEATH THEY DESERVE...
DIRTY FAG! I'LL KILL YOU
UUUGGHH
NINJA
HURRY, RAGE! BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
... RAGE AND ZEPHYR WHISK THE UNCONSCIOUS YOUNG MAN AWAY.

Don't miss season three of

queer as folk

Order SHOWTIME today
and get $25 CASH!

WHY DON'T YOU ASSHOLES TRY THAT SHIT WITH ME!!!
FUCKING COWARDS!
HA! LOOK BOYS, MORE BATTIN' PRACTICE.
WANNA DANCE, PRINCESS?
RAGE RELEASES THE FULL FORCE OF HIS FURY IN THE FORM OF A MIND-DISTORTION RAY...

We're out to bring you the very best entertainment...anywhere!

• Hollywood Hits No One Else Has' • Bold Original Pictures and Series

To subscribe: call 1-800-SHOWTIME or log on to SHO.com

SHOWTIME UNLIMITED
more of what you want

To receive your rebate, mail this coupon along with your first two months' original service bills dated between 11/15/02 and 2/29/04 indicating your new Showtime subscription to:

Showtime QAF Offer
Dept. B
P.O. Box 2288
Grand Rapids, MN 55745-2288

*Offer expires 12/31/03. Rebate available to new Showtime subscribers only. Proof of purchase required. Limit one rebate per household. This offer can not be combined with any other Showtime offer. Your rebate check will be mailed to you within 8-10 weeks after the receipt of the above mentioned documents. Keep a copy for your files. Your response must be postmarked by 3/15/04 and received by 03/31/04.

Name _____

PLEASE PRINT

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Cable System Name _____

E-Mail _____

☐ Check here if you do not wish to receive e-mail updates from Showtime.

SHOWTIME.com

SHOWTIME.
NO LIMITS.

©2002 Showtime Networks Inc. All rights reserved. SHOWTIME and related marks are registered trademarks of Showtime Networks Inc., a Viacom Company. NO LIMITS is a registered trademark of Antas-Gestao e Investimentos LDA. Showtime Networks Inc. is an authorized licensee. "The Others": ©2001 Buena Vista Television. All rights reserved. All rights reserved. "Crossroads": ™ & ©2001 by Paramount Pictures and Filmco Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. SOUL FOOD® Twentieth Century Fox. ©2002 Paramount Pictures. All rights reserved. "Zoolander": ™ & ©2001 by Paramount Pictures. All rights reserved. "Behind the Red Door": ©2001 Red Door Films, LLC Praxis Entertainment Group, Limited. "The Score": ©2001 Paramount Pictures and MP Film Management TS Productions. GmbH & Co. KG. All rights reserved.

...TO THEIR SECRET LAIR OVERLOOKING GAYOPOLIS.
DON'T WORRY, I KNOW HOW TO BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE.
I BET YOU DO...
RAGE GENTLY PLACES HIM ON HIS RESTORATIVE BED...
AND PREPARES TO USE HIS OTHER SUPER POWER.

THE HEALING PROCESS BEGINS.

SATURDAY MORNING. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS FRIDAY NIGHT, IT ALWAYS COMES. ZEPHYR RISES FIRST, MAKES THE COFFEE, AND RESUMES THE DUO'S RESPONSIBILITIES. EVENTUALLY, RAGE EMERGES...
17
RISE AND SHINE CRIME-FIGHTER! YOU'RE ALL OVER THE NEWS. I COULD'VE SWORN YOU HAD SOMEONE HELPING YOU, BUT THEY ONLY MENTION...
LESS TALK, MORE COFFEE
YOU DIDN'T SLEEP WELL?
I DIDN'T SLEEP AT ALL.
WHY NOT..? WASN'T THE KID OKAY WHEN HE LEFT..?
WHO SAID HE LEFT?
TO BE CONTINUED...

RAGE SKETCHBOOK

WELCOME TO THE **RAGE SKETCHBOOK!** WE WANTED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT ALL OF THE WORK THAT WENT INTO DESIGNING **RAGE!**

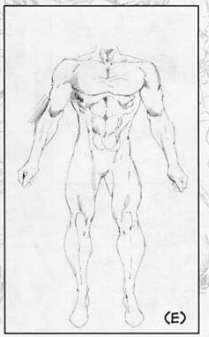
(A)

(B)

(C)

THE EARLIEST GLIMPSE OF THE FINAL **RAGE** DESIGN CAME IN THE FORM OF THE **"RAGE IS COMING"** TEASER POSTER. THE CHARACTER DESIGN FOR THAT POSTER WENT THROUGH A NUMBER OF CHANGES BEFORE IT GOT TO YOUR TV SCREEN. **FIGURE A** WAS THOUGHT TO BE VERY DYNAMIC, BUT IT DIDN'T QUITE WORK IN SHADOW, AS THE IMPACT OF HIS FIST WAS LOST. **FIGURE B** WORKED MUCH BETTER IN THAT REGARD, BUT THE POSE WAS THOUGHT NOT TO BE 'ICONIC' ENOUGH. FINALLY, WITH **FIGURE C**, THE POSE WAS SET AND **RAGE** WAS BORN. BUT HOW DID WE EVEN GET TO THIS COSTUME DESIGN?

(D)



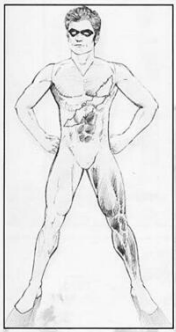
(E)

(F)

FIRST, WE HAD TO DESIGN **RAGE**'S BODY TYPE. TRADITIONALLY, SUPER HEROES HAVE FAIRLY EXAGGERATED BODIES. THE INITIAL DESIGNS **(FIGURES D + E)** HAD **RAGE** MUCH BULKIER AND MORE MUSCULAR, A BODYBUILDER'S BUILD. HOWEVER, SINCE **RAGE** IS MODELLED ON THE CHARACTER 'BRIAN', WE FELT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT **RAGE**'S PHYSIQUE MATCHED BRIAN'S OWN, PERHAPS SLIGHTLY MORE IDEALIZED. IN **FIGURE F**, WE SLIMMED DOWN THE HIPS, 'TIGHTENED UP' THE MUSCLES IN THE ARMS, LEGS, AND CHEST, AND GAVE **RAGE** MORE OF A SWIMMER'S BUILD. STILL IDEALIZED, BUT MORE REALISTIC.

RAGE SKETCHBOOK

THE COSTUME DESIGN FOR RAGE WAS ACTUALLY NAILED DOWN FAIRLY EARLY, WITH THE MOTIF BEING THE RIP ACROSS HIS CHEST. BELOW ARE SOME OF THE DESIGNS FOR THE FINAL 'RAGE IS HERE' POSTER AND STANDUP SHOWN IN THE SECOND SEASON FINALE.

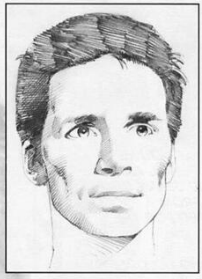


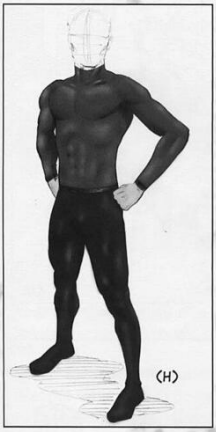
THE FINAL CHARACTER DESIGN APPROVED, THE NEXT MOST IMPORTANT STEP WAS TO ACCURATELY CAPTURE THE LIKENESSES OF THE ACTORS. GALE HAROLD AS BRIAN/RAGE WENT THROUGH A NUMBER OF REVISIONS, PARTICULARLY FOR HIS MASK DESIGN, AND YOU CAN SEE A NUMBER OF THEM BELOW. THE FINAL DESIGN IS **FIGURE 6**.

AS MANY VARIATIONS AS **RAGE** WENT THROUGH, HIS ERSTWHILE PARTNER **ZEPHYR** WAS RELATIVELY UNCOMPLICATED. THE LIKENESS OF ACTOR HAL SPARKS (WHO PLAYS MICHAEL/ZEPHYR) WAS REALIZED FAIRLY QUICKLY, AS WAS HIS MASK DESIGN.

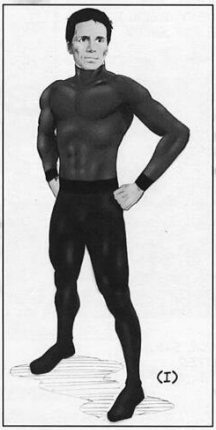
THE COSTUME DESIGN IS A VARIATION ON 'MICHAEL'S' TYPICAL ATTIRE, JEANS AND A T-SHIRT. THE EARLY DESIGNS (**FIGURES H-J**) FOLLOWED THIS PATTERN. THE FINAL DESIGN WAS SEEN ON THE QAF SEASON 2 FINALE, AND IN THE COMIC (PANEL EXCERPTED BELOW AS **FIGURE K**).

FIGURE L IS **ZEPHYR'S** LOGO, THE CHINESE SYMBOL FOR WIND.





(H)



(I)

(J)

(K)

風

(L)

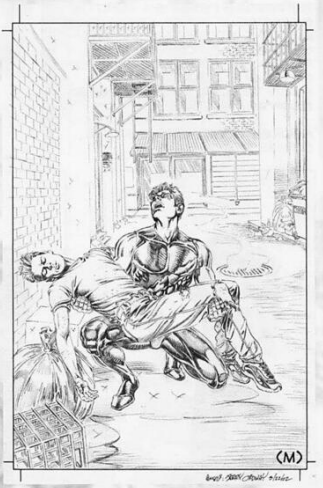
RAGE SKETCHBOOK

*HERE ARE SOME OF THE PRODUCTION PIECES THAT WENT INTO THE CREATION OF THE **RAGE** COMIC AND TV MATERIAL!*

FIGURE M *(RIGHT) IS THE ORIGINAL PENCILED COVER TO THE **RAGE** COMIC THAT YOU'RE HOLDING IN YOUR HANDS! THE PENCIL ART WAS COMPLETED BY COMICS LEGEND JERRY ORDWAY, AND USED PHOTO REFERENCE FROM A PHOTO SHOOT SPECIFICALLY CONDUCTED FOR THE COVER (**FIGURE N**).*

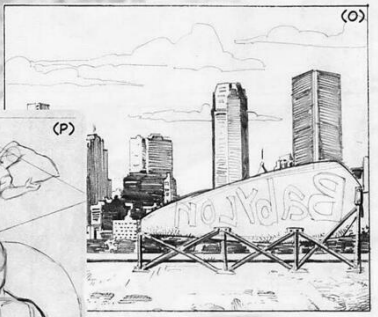
THE COVER WAS THEN INKED AND COLORED BY QAF STAFF COMIC ARTIST JON KENT. THE WHOLE PIECE WAS COMPLETED VERY QUICKLY DUE TO THE TIGHT SCHEDULE OF THE SHOW.

(N)

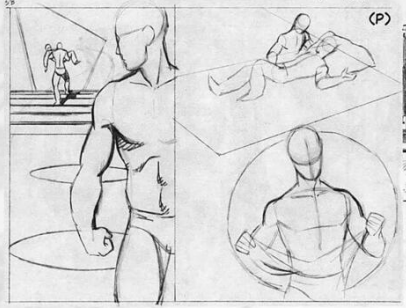


(M)

FIGURE O *IS THE ORIGINAL PENCIL SKETCH THAT WAS DONE FOR THE ANIMATED SEQUENCE OF **RAGE** FLYING IN BRIAN'S DAYDREAM. THAT'S THE ACTUAL PITTSBURGH SKYLINE, AS WELL AS THE BACK OF THE '**BABYLON**' CLUB SIGN.*



(O)



(P)

FIGURE P *IS THE ROUGH BREAKDOWN FOR ONE OF THE INTERIOR PAGES OF THE COMIC BOOK. THESE ROUGHS WERE GIVEN TO THE ARTISTS, WHO TRANSLATED THEM INTO FINISHED ART.*

queer.SHO.com

is open for business!

It's here, it's **queer** and you'll **love it!**

- calendars
- posters
- magnets
- t-shirts
- glassware
- music
- VHS/DVDs

Visit the QUEER AS FOLK Official Fan Headquarters at queer.SHO.com!

SHOP for fantastic queer products featuring your favorite cast members and REGISTER to receive the insider's newsletter, so you'll be the first to hear the latest on the most outrageous show on TV!

2003 Calendars

T-Shirts

Poster

queer as folk

SEASON THREE – COMING IN MARCH

TO SUBSCRIBE: CALL 1-800-SHOWTIME

SHOWTIME NO LIMITS

©2002 Showtime Networks Inc. All rights reserved. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a Viacom Company. NO LIMITS is a registered trademark of Antas-Gestao e Investimentos LDA. Showtime Networks Inc. is an authorized licensee.

Like it? Buy it !
ABSOLUT
Country of Sweden
VODKA
IMPORTED
DCP
ABSOLUT SPAMMSTER